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NCMC Update

An Official bi-monthly Publication of the National Capital Macintosh Club

Mac News Tidbits

The Guinness Disc of Records!

Pergamon Compact Solution of London, UK along with Guinness have recently announced the availability of the Guinness Book of Records in Compact Disc format for the Apple® Macintosh™.

The Guinness Disc of Records contains animations, spoken words, color photographs, and of course text. It includes the HyperCard™ software and the HyperKRS™ retrieval software. When you buy the Guinness Disc of Records, you will receive the compact disc with its own explanatory leaflet, the data and all necessary software. It will run on a Mac Plus and up equipped with a CD-ROM drive and costs US$ 99.00.

For more information, contact Pergamon Compact Solution, Irwin House, 118 Southwark St., London SEI OSW, UK. Phone: 011-44-1-928-1404. ❑

Apple Canada Slashes Prices!

Apple Canada, as is customary before the introduction of new computers, has reduced prices on Macintosh computers by Can. $500 to Can. $2,300 and on LaserWriter printers by as much as Can. $2,200.

The Macintosh SE with diskette drive only has been cut from Can. $4,187 to $3,675. The Macintosh SE 1/20 has been cut from Can. $5,058 to Can. $4,250. The Macintosh SE 2/40 has been reduced from Can. $5,937 to Can. $4,825.

The Macintosh SE/30 with a diskette drive goes from Can. $6,675 to Can. $5,550, the Macintosh SE/30 1/40 from Can. $7,425 to Can. $6,250, and the Macintosh SE/30 2/80 from Can. $9,995 to Can. $7,695. None of these prices include the keyboard.

Apple Canada has dropped the price of the LaserWriter IISC from Can. $4,350 to Can. $3,995 and that of the LaserWriter IINT from Can. $7,549 to Can. $6,450. The LaserWriter IINTX is marked down from Can. $10,795 to Can. $8,595.

For additional information contact: Apple Canada, 416-477-5800) or an Authorized Apple dealer nearest you. ❑

MacWorld in Toronto!

According to Mitch Hall Associates, we Canadians are going to get our very own MacWorld Expo in Toronto. It will be held on Tuesday, 23rd October through Thursday, 25th October 1990 at the Better Living Centre building.

The show is expected to attract hundreds of Canadian, U.S., and overseas companies. For more information, contact: Janet Sarofeen, Mitch Hall Associates, at 617-361-8000. ❑

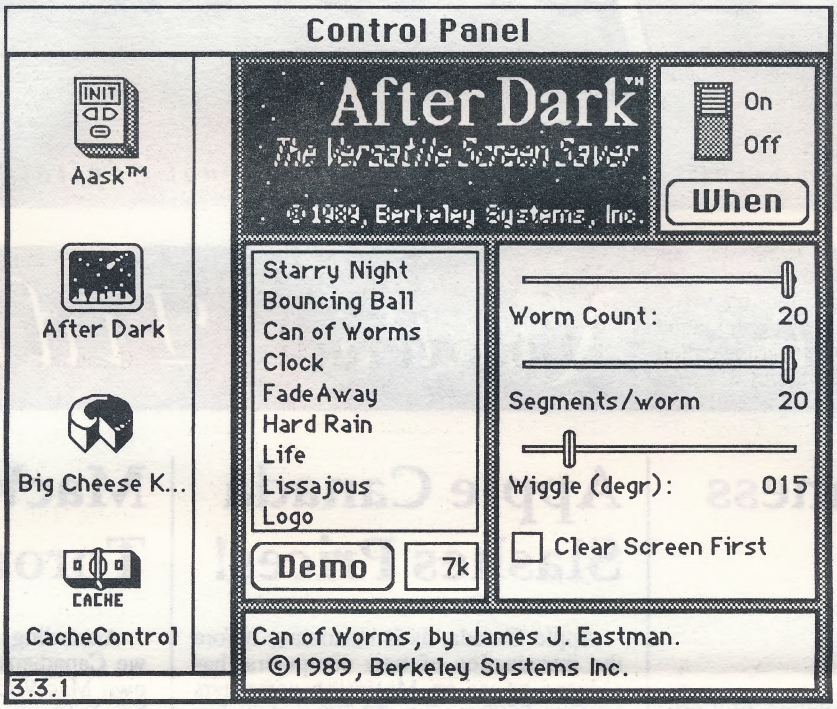
Mini Software Review

After Dark™ ...
... The Screen Saver!

Are you confused about which screen saver software to get for your Macintosh™ ? Are you worried that maybe you're going to choose the wrong one? Do you get bored with watching stars wiz by at incredible speeds or polygons moving every which way on your screen? If so, then read on! The folks at Berkeley Systems finally got tired of the proliferation of screen savers for the Macintosh and decided to write and market a Macintosh screen saver to end all Macintosh screen saver called *After Dark.*

First Things First

After Dark is an INIT/CDEV. What does that mean you ask? Well, all it means is that installation on configuration is a snap. Just drop After Dark and its associated files in the System Folder and ... poof ... you're done installing After Dark. After you re-boot you Macintosh, just go the the Control Panel DA and select After Dark and you can configure it to your hearts content. To see what After Dark looks like, see the picture below. By the way, when the After Dark icon comes up on your Macintosh screen after you boot, you'll see a neat little animation of a falling star. To me that alone is worth the price.



Features, Features, & Features

Of course After Dark comes with the basic features of being able to turn it off or on as you can see from the switch icon in the above picture. In addition to that, using the WHEN button, you can also tell After Dark to start its stuff after any number of minutes of inactivity. You can also tell After Dark where on your screen the "go to sleep now" is (usually the top right hand corner of your screen) and where the "never to to sleep" area is (usually the bottom right hand corner of your screen).

So far there is really nothing special about After Dark. Any screen saver worth the disk label its stored in should have the above features. However, do you remember that I told you that After Dark has other files associated to it. Well, if you don't ... it does have them. These files are actually small programs which After Dark uses to perform the animation when its saving your Macintosh Screen. As you can see from the above picture, you can have a starry night as your screen saver or you can have a can of worms eat away your screen or just about any of the 15 different types of animation that comes with After Dark.

For most of these animation, you have the option of clearing your screen first or not clearing you screen first. Not clearing your screen first provides for a fantastic effect of worms eating away at your screen until all of it is black, assuming you choose the "Can of Worms" animation of course. Furthermore, for most of the animations, you can change the parameters for the animation. As you can see from the above picture for Can of Worms, you can change the Worm Count, the Segments per Worm, and the Wiggle Degree.

If that is not enough, the folks at Berkeley Systems thought that it may be cumbersome to select an animation, quit from the Control Panel, and move your mouse to the "go to sleep now" area and see what the animation you selected looked like. So, they have included a DEMO button at the bottom of the list of animations. When you click on this button, After Dark will perform the selected animation right there and then and the DEMO button turns into a STOP button. This way you can see if you like the animation first, before quitting from the Control Panel DA.

Other Animations

The Can of Worms animation is definitely my favorite animation, but there are 14 others. One of the more interesting ones is the Logo animation. When you select this animation, you can select a picture to be displayed on the screen, for example, you can display your company logo or a sign that says you're out to lunch or whatever you want. As a matter of fact, you can create your own picture using any Paint program and paste it into the Logo animation. I produce one using Canvas that says Work Sucks! and it works great!

Another interesting one is called Zot!. When you select this animation and activate it, you're screen is turned completely black and every few seconds, a lightning bolt strikes from the top of your screen to the bottom of your screen ... awesome!

Compatibility and Programmability

I am running After Dark will a whole slew of INITs and CDEVs including Master Juggler, TOPS, Adobe Type Manager, SAM, SUM Shields, and few others and so far it has worked per-

Software Watch

Below please find a listing of the latest Macintosh software upgrades recently announced by their publishers. Wherever possible, the cost for the upgrade is also listed. This list is sorted alphabetically by software name.

Software Name	Version	Cost US$
Adobe Type Manager	1.2	Free
After Dark	1.1	Free
Canvas	2.1	$ 20.00
Canvas DA	2.1	Included
Construction Set	2.0	$ 25.00
Disinfectant	1.6	Free
Excellerate for Microsoft Excel	2.2	$ 25.00
Gofer	2.0	$ 25.00
Hard Disk Partition	3.0	$ 30.00
HyperDA	1.2	$ 15.00
MacAtlas	2.0	$ 79.00
MacinStor Installer	2.01	$ 25.00
Macintosh Pascal	3.0	$ 69.00
MacSmarts	3.3	$ 50.00
MacSmarts Professional	3.0	Free
MapMaker	4.0	$ 75.00
Mathematica	1.2	$ 45.00
Minimum Requirements	2.0	$ 7.95
PrintBar	2.0	$ 195.00
Redux	1.61	Free
Symantec Antivirus for the Macintosh	1.4	$ 15.00
Sequencer 1000	3.0	$ 24.95
SuperMOM	2.1	Free
QuickPie	2.0	Free
Think C	4.0	$ 74.00
Vantage DA	1.5	$ 15.00

If you know of any releases of new versions of software for the Mac, please share the information with the rest of the NCMC and let me know. I will put information in the *NCMC Update*. ❑

fectly. After Dark will also not interfere with downloading files from other computers and background printing using MultiFinder.

For those of you hackers out there, Berkeley Systems have not forgotten about you. The second half of the documentation provides an explanation on how to write a program to do animation which will then be executed by After Dark. As a matter of fact, I downloaded an After Dark animation program called Quantum Lines from Genie and it works quite well. I'm sure that people will start writing new ones pretty soon. Check the PD library to see if there are any new ones out there.

Documentation

After Dark comes with a 28 page documentation booklet. The first part explains step by step on how to install After Dark and also describes all the features and animations that are included with the package. The second half as I mentioned earlier is about how to program your own animation if you so inclined. All in all the documentation was clearly written and laid out.

Conclusion

After Dark is definitely the screen saver to get for the Macintosh. Its very versatile as you can change the animation when you get tired of it. Furthermore, it's compatible with a large number of INITs and CDEVs and doesn't interfere with downloading or background printing.

Program Name: After Dark version 1.0
Publisher: Berkeley Systems, Inc.
1700 Shattuck Avenue,
Berkeley, CA, 94709
USA, 415-540-5535.
Price: Can $ 39.00. ❑ © 1990 Bam Liem

Virus Corner

New Mac Virus Discovered!

A new Macintosh virus named "*WDEF*" has been discovered in Belgium, at Northwestern University, and at the University of Texas. The *WDEF* virus infects the invisible "*Desktop*" files used by the *Finder*. Every Macintosh disk has one of these files (hard drives and floppies). The virus spreads from *Desktop* file to *Desktop* file, but it does not infect applications, data files, or system files. The virus does not intentionally try to do any damage. In fact, it doesn't do anything except spread from disk to disk.

Due to a bug, the virus causes Mac IIci's to crash. We have also noticed unusually frequent crashes on infected Mac IIcx's, and severe performance problems with infected AppleShare servers. There are also other bugs in the virus which could cause problems.

You do not have to run a program for the virus to spread. Unlike most of the other Mac viruses, the *WDEF* virus is not spread via the sharing and distribution of programs, but rather via the sharing and distribution of disks, usually floppy disks. You can eliminate the virus from a disk by rebuilding the *Desktop* file (hold down the <Command> and <Option> keys while booting or while inserting a floppy).

Jeff Shulman, the author of *Virus Detective* 3.1, recommends adding the following search string to detect the virus:

Creator=ERIK & Resource WDEF & Any

Virus Detective can also be used to remove the virus - click on the "Remove" button whenever the search string is matched. This only works if you are not using *MultiFinder*, and if you are running some program other than the *Finder*. Don't try this with the other viruses - *Virus Detective* can only repair *WDEF* infections, not infections by the other known Macintosh viruses. As far as we know, *Virus Detective* is the only virus-fighting tool which can detect the new *WDEF* virus.

Unfortunately, the virus manages to avoid detection by all of the popular protection INITs, including *Vaccine 1.0.1*, *GateKeeper 1.1.1*, *SAM Intercept 1.10*, and *Virex INIT 1.12*. *Disinfectant 1.3*, *Virus Rx 1.5*, *SAM Virus Clinic 1.10*, and *Virex 2.12* also all fail to detect the virus. We expect that many of the virus-fighting programs mentioned above will be updated soon to deal properly with the new *WDEF* virus.

Source: John Norstad Academic Computing and Network Services Northwestern University 2129 Sheridan Road Evanston, IL 60208. ❑

MacWorld SFO

The next San Francisco MacWorld Expo is scheduled for April 11-13, 1990 at the Brooks Hall/Civic Auditorium and the Moscone Center.

This event will be the 6th consecutive year for the Macintosh only Expo and will cover 340,000 square feet involving 450 companies, according to organizer Mitch Hall Associates.

Among the featured speakers will be John Sculley, chairman of Apple, Jean-Louis Gassee, president of Apple Products, and Mitch Kapor, chairman of On Technology and founder of Lotus Development.

Conferences at the expo will cover such topics as multimedia, design, software mastery, and programming and developing applications.

Conference and exhibit entrance fees are US$ 80.00. Fees for exhibit only are US$ 25.00.

For more information call Mitch Hall Associates in Dedham, Massachusetts at 617-361-8000. ❑

Next Meeting

The **March 1990** General Meeting of the National Capital Macintosh Club (NCMC) will be held as follows:

- Date: **Monday, 26th March 1990**
- Agenda: 7:00 PM - PD Software Market
  7:30 PM - What's New!
  8:00 PM - Demo No. 1
  8:30 PM - This Month's PD Software Demo
  8:45 PM - Break
  9:00 PM - Demo No. 2
- Place: Sir Robert Borden High School Cafeteria
  131 Greenbank Rd. (South of Baseline Rd.), Ottawa

Call **236-NCMC** for any last minute changes to the meeting time & date!

About the *NCMC Update*

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The opinions expressed in the *NCMC Update* are those of the authors and do not necessary reflect those of the NCMC, its members, or its Executive.

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Mac News Cont'd

The World According to the CIA!

Wayzata Technology Inc. of Farmingham, Texas have just announced the 1989 CIA World Factbook in Compact Disc format for the Apple® Macintosh™.

The CIA World Factbook is produced annually by the Directorate of the Central Intelligence Agency. It includes extensive examinations of territories, countries, protectorates, and disputed land claims world-wide. Socio-economic, Geo-political, demographic, and other country specific data is included.

Features of the "book" includes:

- A list of international Organizations.
- A cross reference of Geographic Names.
- 256 profiles of geographic regions.
- Fast Data Access with TextWare™ Retrieval Software.
- Country Maps in TIFF format.

The 1989 CIA World Factbook CD-ROM is available immediately and the suggested retail price is US$ 99.00.

For more information, contact Wayzata Technology, Inc., PO Box 225, Farmington, MN, 55024, U.S.A. Phone: 1-800-735-7321 or 1-612-460-8438. ❑